

From the Pastor's Desk



Saturday, July 11, 2020

Links for Sunday, a Prayer, and a Reading from Philippians Worth Repeating

*This is the day the LORD has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

Psalm 118:24

This Sunday we are back to a "live" worship service, in real time, via Zoom. **Communion will be part of tomorrow's worship, so you may wish to prepare elements of bread and wine before the service begins.** Having just returned from a short visit with my Mom in Illinois, I will be off camera and joining the service from home quarantine this Sunday.



Links are provided below for

- Church Chat at 9:30 A.M.
- The Summer Worship Series service at 10:30 A.M.
- Hymn Sing at 7:00 P.M.

FOR THIS SUNDAY, JULY 12:

9:30 A.M. Church Chat

[Click here to join friends before the service for Church Chat,](#)

an online Zoom opportunity to see friends and check in before worship. Drop in and leave as you feel comfortable. A convener will simply make sure that everyone who wants to check in and catch up can do so. Feel free to join even if you think you want to be a silent participant. Everyone is welcome!

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10:30 A.M. Worship

[Click here to join the online worship service](#)

shortly before 10:30 A.M.

(If the above link doesn't seem to work, please go directly to the Montreat Conference Center [Worship page](#) and find the link for today's service there.)

The **[bulletin](#)** can be downloaded from the Conference Center's Worship page (<https://montreat.org/events/summer-worship-2020>).

(Please note: the bulletin is sometimes not updated until the morning of the service.

This is a link to the Montreat Conference Center website, which is not administered by our office.)

Last Sunday's service (July 5) can be seen in its entirety **[here](#)**.

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7:00 P.M. Montreat Hymn Sing

The summer hymn sings are held "in real time"
and you can **use [this link to join](#)**.

The Hymn Sing on July 12 will broadcast from the Presbyterian Heritage Center. Tune in as Eric Wall leads a program entitled
"C. S. Lewis and Hymns."

Join us as we explore Lewis's thoughts on church music and hymn-singing as well as musical imagery and metaphor in his works. This program will come to you from the Wardrobe Door in the Center's C. S. Lewis exhibit - we might even venture inside the wardrobe!

For a PDF to accompany the evening's programming, [click here](#).

Nadia Bolz-Weber published a prayer last Sunday that made it seem as if she had been sitting in on Zoom meetings and rifling through my email. Some excerpts appear below.
K.G.

Dear God,

Everyone's exhausted right now: parents, activists, cashiers, people who are learning about systemic racism, delivery drivers, the unemployed, the chronically sick, ER nurses, those who fear the police, the elderly, performers with no hope of an audience any time soon, clergy, social workers, those who can't make their rent, and everyone who has to spray something down with disinfectant for the 1,000th time.

Teach us to rest, Lord.

Help us dial back our obsession with productivity.

Remove barriers to napping.

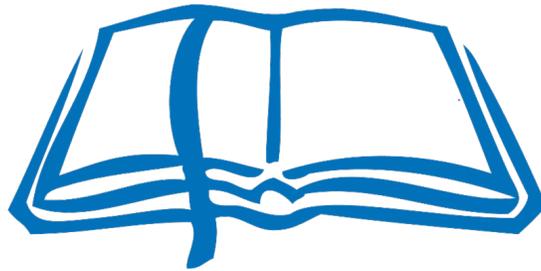
Quiet those voices that tell us we should be doing more right now, especially the ones that come from inside of us. Teach us not to confuse respite with laziness.

Increase our compassion for one another.

And while you're at it, increase our compassion for ourselves.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. AMEN.

*Excerpts from Nadia Bolz-Weber, "Sunday Prayers,
July 5, 2020" in The Corners (email publication)*



*Finally, beloved, whatever is true,
whatever is honorable,
whatever is just,
whatever is pure,
whatever is pleasing,
whatever is commendable,
if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.
Keep on doing the things
that you have learned and received
and heard and seen in me,
and the God of peace will be with you.*

Philippians 4:8-9

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